

Message Text

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44

ACTION WRD-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 /016 W

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P 021541Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2598

INFO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

UNCLAS OUAGADOUGOU 3444

FOR: WRDCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ACOM, UV

SUBJ: ROUTE 300 COURIER SCHEDULE

REF: STATE 263797

1. THE CHANGE FROM A TUESDAY TO A SATURDAY COURIER EXCHANGE IS
A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE FOR THE WORSE FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW.
BECAUSE THE SATURDAY RK 304 FLIGHT DAKAR-BAMAKO-OUAGA-NIAMEY IS
ALMOST ALWAYS QUITE LATE, THE PRACTICAL EFFECT IS TO INCREASE
THE OVERTIME WORKED BY THE C&R PERSON ON DUTY TO ENCOMPASS
VIRTUALLY ALL DAY SATURDAY. (BECAUSE OF LACK OF COMMUNICATIONS
AT AIRPORT THE ONLY WAY TO FIND OUT WHEN A PLANE IS ACTUALLY
ARRIVING IS TO GO THE AIRPORT. THIS SOMETIMES ENTAILS THREE
OR FOUR TRIPS TO THE AIRPORT). THIS CREATES A PERSONAL HARSHIP
FOR OUR LIMITED C&R STAFF IN ADDITION TO THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS
SPENT ON OVERTIME.

2. IN FACT, BECAUSE OF THE TIMING OF THE FLIGT, IT APPEARS THAT
WE WOULD HAVE TO HAVE THE SECOND C&R PERSON MAKE THE COURIER
EXCHANGE. THE 9:45 A.M. SUPPOSED ARRIVAL TIME COMES DURING
THE PEAK PERIOD OF CABLE TRAFFIC. IT IS NOT PRACTICAL TO STOP
COMMUNICATIONS TO MAKE TRIPS TO THE AIRPORT TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE
AIRPLANE'S ETA. THEREFORE BOTH OF OUR C&R PEOPLE WOULD BE
WORKING EVERY SATURDAY.

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3. FROM OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH COURIERS, WE KNOW

THAT THE COURIERS THEMSELVES ALSO MUCH PREFER THE TUESDAY FLIGHT
(RK 300) TO THE SATURDAY FLIGHT.

4. RETAINING THE TUESDAY COURIER EXCHANGE WOULD ALLEViate
THE ABOVE PROBLEMS. THE TUESDAY FLIGHT IS ALMOST ALWAYS ON TIME.
SINCE TUESDAY IS NORMAL WORK DAY, COURIER EXCHANGE DOES NOT
REQUIRE OVERTIME.

5. STRONGLY REQUEST THAT COURIER EXCHANGE FOR OUAGADOUGOU
CONTINUE TO BE SCHEDULED ON TUESDAYS.GRAHAM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OUAGAD03444
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760408-0694
From: OUAGADOUGOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761190/aaaaczry.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION WRD
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 263797
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: dunloph0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAR 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Mar-2001 by whitehmr>; APPROVED <30-Mar-2001 by dunloph0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROUTE 300 COURIER SCHEDULE
TAGS: ACOM, UV
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006